

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH FORUMS

SONORA – July 28, 2005

### Community Development

#### Sonora (South-Central)

- How can SNC benefit local economy? Can't see it.
- How will SNC benefit local forests?
- Conduit for museums and other tourism related activities (including historic landmarks)
- Funding for development of Comm. Projects, tech assistance, \$
- Need to understand balance between Development and Environment (Triple bottom line)
- Downtown revitalization
- Rights-of-way along roads
- Jurisdiction for decision making - does it rest with local communities?
- Ways to maintain community identity? Acquisition, Planning
- No \$ to implement bike and pedestrian plans and trail plans
- Assist CalTrans with road planning and other infrastructure
- Effects of clear cutting - research
- Promotion of timber industry jobs
- Alternative forest practices
- How is funding per region determined?
- Local oversight over SNC process
- South Central region needs control over own jurisdiction
- Concern that SNC may turn into park - won't permit locals to have influence on local resources
- Maintain jobs locally - keep locals local
- SNC needs to help not hinder local economy
- How will SNC support affordable housing? Loans to local agencies for developing AF, develop workforce, "worktowns"
- Can SNC help to determine economic benefits of restoration RE Hetch Hetchy for Tuolumne
- Some disagreement RE whether tourism is wanted or not
- Coordination with RCD's, community action agencies and community development corporations
- Rural community development - ensure alignment among groups - bring appropriate materials (tech assistance) to rural areas
- Funding for RCD's (capacity, organizational, Dev)
- Coordination b/w resource agencies and local economic dev agencies
- Communication within Sierra (TV, Radio, tech) needs improvement (need study to provide these)
- Protecting open space between communities (so towns don't run together) anti-sprawl
- Local capacity assessment for region
- Maintaining small town atmosphere
- Protection of equestrian access throughout region
- Econ dev to promote small business - increasing capacity, revolving loans, regional branding, biz training
- Link environment with economic viability, ex. Small wood vitalization projects
- Maintain farms - working landscapes and, ex. Buy development rights, conservation easements
- Link between working landscapes and tourism
- Connect BLM, USFS, other trail and recreational systems
- Support for capacity building and micro-enterprise
- Pilot projects - important to start with these
- Concern with jobs and housing balance
- Business to support bike trail network
- Supporting sustainable efforts to be involved, educated, effective in local planning process
- Support for infill development

BY AREA

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#### Community Development (continued)

- Support for equestrian agrotourism
- Focus on livable communities for older adults
- Demographics, migration from higher to lower elevations with in Sierra

#### Health & Well Being

##### Sonora (South-Central)

- Watershed Restoration
- Ditch-system approach for the Sierra- develop management tools for public access as well as water uses
- Enhance ditch systems for as much multiple use as possible (eg. Water conveyance, trails, riparian corridors, greenbelts, etc.)
- Old logging railroad trails- manage for multiple uses
- Support company with no resources for preserving oaks
- More hard-surface access to view historical and ecological features
- Need for watershed management- who would manage new water that will come out of CALFED process. Is this something SNC could help with?
- EPFW dealing with clear cutting
- Multi-jurisdictional community-based fuel-reduction projects- more funding
- Phoenix Lake multi-agencies community based task force looking for funding for water-related problems (mosquitoes, sedimentation, eutrophication, etc.) and access to lake
- Ditches, canals, flumes from mother Lode mining era (historical, cultural, functional, biological value) restored protected and enhanced for recreation, they convey water, generate electricity, etc.
- More public transportation to recreational venues (to address air quality) rural counties receive no federal transportation funding
- Technical assistance for Phoenix Lake- land acquisition for public access
- Long-term funding for watershed coordinators (CALFED may be dissolved) SNC should support these efforts (Mokelumne)- support for voluntary and collaborative as opposed to mandated efforts
- Restore Hetch Hetchy Valley and Tuolumne River -- help with funding and technical assistance
- Restore and protect wildlife corridor
- Traditional economic development help for small businesses
- Forest Health, thinning in interface and general forest to protect air and water quality we have now
- Healthy forests in California require fire. SNC cannot be a block to good forest management- CDF and Air Board for Prescription Burns
- SWIF- interagency team gets money for projects but not administration
- Providing forums and support for fire-safe councils
- Need money for on the ground versus administration
- Address urban runoff and impact on (N. of Sonora) Twain Hart Creek. Problems with methane- collects all runoff from area -grants don't pan for infiltration projects or infrastructure
- Work across sectors to balance the value of trade-offs- short-term air quality impacts to utilize prescribed fire and wildland fire use for resource benefits as tools to ensure healthy Sierra Nevada forest ecosystems that are fire-dependant
- Move motorized recreation away from sensitive ecosystems and watersheds
- Ensure that timber companies clean-up after harvests and provide money for monitoring
- Work on defining and implementing sustainable logging
- Maintain divisions between and create well-defined human communities
- Incentivize timber industry to work with environmental concerns- find more common ground

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### **Property Rights**

#### Sonora (South-Central)

- Maintaining viable agriculture industry as an objective acquisition criteria
- Support outreach efforts of local land trusts to inform property owners of options available to them to protect AG land and open space and make sure they function effectively

### **Technical Assistance**

#### Sonora (South-Central)

- Phoenix Lake- 80 Acres sedimentation- task force now looking at restoration
- Need help with environmental documents
- Wished assessments better understanding of forestry practices
- Help in economic development- sustainable and small scale ventures
- Small wood utilization linking economy with environment, fire management, etc.
- Maintain Sierra economy and quality of life
- Inventory capacity of locals to carry out- collaborative planning, what local technical capacity exists (inventory and use), database of local capacity
- What are impacts (environmental/ social) of non-motorized recreation- Inventory use and capacity
- Are there sufficient resources/ infrastructure to accommodate growth?
- Cultural and historical inventory (Conservation and restoration) Bob Dean (209-754-5887) big gap in data, education outreach
- Utilize conservancy leverage existing, studies of Sierra Assets
- Affordable housing, need to coordinate with local/ regional efforts
- Visible presence of state in local efforts (proactive)
- Technical Assistance to ID economic impacts of programs
- Find jobs for local / rural communities
- Facilitate the balancing of environmental and economic needs
- Importance/ technical assistance for water quality monitoring
- Provide consultants who can assist tract managers with working with government, working with private and corporate land owners
- Bring in legal resources as necessary
- Preserving and enhancing regional/historic ditch system- wants help technical assistance
- Provide technical assistance to existing watershed councils and new formation of councils
- Provide technical assistance to fire safe councils
- Investigate possibility to support Sierra-wide community system (TV. Radio) - don't want information from valley
- DWR Studies to support Hetch Hetchy --provide technical assistance- Supplement DWR studies which are inadequate

### **Tourism & Recreation**

#### Sonora (South-Central)

- Fund local tourism efforts to promote recreation (funding chambers to act as pass through to local tourism agencies)
- Technology more incorporated into all tourism aspects - marketing, informational, communications, road conditions
- Assisting regions to promote collaborative recreational use of resources and achieving balance and year round use
- Support networking in the arts

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- Creating alternative lodging opportunities I.e. B&B's
- Identify opportunities for ecotourism on private lands - tie into conservation easements
- Repair and develop Merced River Trail as a pedestrian, bike, and equestrian trail
- Connect trail system to Merced, Tuolumne, Madera, Mariposa as a non motorized trail
- Develop mineral mining museum in Mariposa
- Develop walking paths along Tuolumne ditch system
- Protect archeological sites
- Help with Bear Valley Planning process
- Develop remaining segments of Mokelumne Coast to crest trail
- Separate motorized and non-motorized
- Develop non-motorized link b/w population centers and business centers in Twain Harte and other communities
- Trails that incorporate drainage issues, replace culverts
- Trails to provide access to isolated blocks of public lands
- Increase public transit for access to public lands
- Support for Ebbets Pass Scenic Byway - Funding to help implement when it passes, operation and maintenance
- River restoration - Tuolumne and Hetch Hetchy Valley - Increase tourism and recreation to the valley
- More recreation access - ADA compliant
- Provide assistance for transportation planning
- Funding for historical landmarks - Senator Curtains Mansion
- Gateway community partnerships for planning and implementation
- Can the SNC board direct staff to report back to communities??
- Develop heritage and ecotourism programs - old railroad right of ways, Historic water conveyance systems
- Help local governments develop funding for community trails
- Turn Jamestown mine into regional park
- Contact sensitive design for highway and roads through small communities. SNC develop a model of contact sensitive design for Cal Trans
- Forest health and thinning

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